

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00777 030847Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3556

S E C R E T JIDDA 0777

NODIS

STADIS //

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, US

SUBJECT: SAUDI VISA POLICY

REF STATE 24955

1. APPRECIATE VERY MUCH YOUR MESSAGE CONCERNING YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH ALIREZA ON SUBJECT OF SELZER'S VISA AND "RELIGION" LONE ON SAUDI VISA APPLICATION FORM.

2. IT MAY WELL BE THAT WE ARE COMING TO A CRUNCH WITH SAUDIS ON SUCH MATTERS. WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST TO PERSUADE THEM TO FORMULATE NEW REGULATIONS WHICH ARE COMPATIBLE WITH OUR NATIONAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF, IN THE LAST ANALYSIS, THEY DECIDE TO STAND ON THEIR SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO CONTROL ACCESS TO THEIR TERRITORY, AND TO TRADE WITH WHOM THEY PLEASE, THEN THOSE CONCERNED IN THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE TO FACE UP TO THE PROBLEM AND WILL HAVE TO DECIDE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WHETHER THE US PUBLIC AS A WHOLE WILL BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF JOBS AND A BURGEONING MARKET THAT PROMISES MORE EMPLOYMENT FOR LARGE NUMBERS OF AMERICANS. I SUSPECT THAT A LITTLE PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE WOULD PRODUCE SOME

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 00777 030847Z

INTERESTING RESULTS.

3. I HAVE NO AVERSION TO GETTING INTO THE ACTION,
AS YOU PUT IT. YOU CAN RELY ON ALL OF US TO USE ALL
POSSIBLE PERSUASIVENESS AND INGENUITY WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK WE ARE LEGALLY BOUND TO OBSERVE.

4. I AWAIT YOUR INSTRUCTIONS.
PORTER

SECRET

NNN

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